

Message Text

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SUBJECT:US POLICY TOWARDS EASTERN EUROPE

1. FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF A STATEMENT GIVEN BY COUNSELOR
HELMUT SONNENFELDT BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON SECURITY AND
SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS OF THE HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
COMMITTEE ON APRIL 13. CHAIRMAN WAS REP. ZABLOSKY (D-WIS).

BEGIN TEXT:

MR. CHAIRMAN, I AM GRATEFUL FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY TO MEET
WITH YOU AND THE MEMBERS OF THIS SUBCOMMITTEE TO DISCUSS
OUR POLICY TOWARD THE COUNTRIES OF CENTRAL AND EASTERN
EUROPE.

I HAVE ONLY A VERY BRIEF OPENING STATEMENT. AND THAT
STATEMENT IS TO AFFIRM IN THE CLEAREST POSSIBLE TERMS THAT
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WE SUPPORT THE INDEPENDENCE, THE NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY AND

IDENTITY, AND THE AUTONOMY OF ALL THE PEOPLES AND COUNTRIES OF CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE.

WE ARE RESPONSIVE TO AND ENCOURAGE THE DESIRES IN ALL THESE COUNTRIES FOR NORMAL AND CONSTRUCTIVE RELATIONS WITH THE REST OF THE WORLD. WE HAVE DEEPLY DEPLORED THE USE OF FORCE

AND REPRESSION, OR ANY OTHER MEANS, TO SUPPRESS THESE LEGITIMATE DESIRES AND ASPIRATIONS.

WE FAVOR FULL ACCEPTANCE BY ALL, INCLUDING THE SOVIET UNION, OF THE INDEPENDENCE, SOVEREIGNTY, AND AUTONOMY OF ALL THE COUNTRIES CONCERNED. WE BELIEVE THAT FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE PRINCIPLES WOULD ADVANCE THE INTERESTS OF PEACE AND SECURITY IN EUROPE.

ALL OF OUR POLICIES, IN WORD AS WELL AS DEED, HAVE BEEN DESIGNED TO FURTHER THESE GOALS. THE PRESIDENT VISITED POLAND, ROMANIA, AND YUGOSLAVIA LAST YEAR TO EMPHASIZE OUR COMMITMENT TO THESE POLICIES. YOU WILL RECALL, MR. CHAIRMAN, THAT THE PRESIDENT ECHOED IN KRAKOW LAST SUMMER GENERAL KOSCIUSKO'S CRY FOR THE FREEDOM AND INDEPENDENCE OF ALL POLES.

THESE GOALS WERE SIMILARLY AFFIRMED IN THE NUMEROUS MEETINGS WHICH THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE HAVE HAD WITH POLITICAL LEADERS FROM THE COUNTRIES OF THE AREA.

THE PRESIDENT REITERATED THEM AGAIN IN MILWAUKEE ON APRIL 2, AND THE SECRETARY DID SO BEFORE THE FULL HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE ON MARCH 29 AND ON OTHER OCCASIONS.

I DEPLORE THE MISUNDERSTANDINGS THAT HAVE ARISEN BECAUSE OF THE ALLEGATIONS IN THE PRESS THAT I ADVOCATE THE CONSOLIDATION OF SOVIET DOMINION IN EASTERN EUROPE. NOTHING COULD BE FURTHER FROM THE TRUTH. I EMPHATICALLY DO NOT ADVOCATE SOVIET DOMINION OR SUBJUGATION OF THE COUNTRIES OF EASTERN EUROPE. I AM IN TOTAL SUPPORT OF THE PRESIDENT'S AND THE ADMINISTRATION'S LONG-STANDING POLICIES AS OUTLINED ABOVE.

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ALL DISCUSSIONS WITHIN THE ADMINISTRATION, INCLUDING THE ONE CONDUCTED WITH AMERICAN AMBASSADORS IN EUROPE DURING A CHIEFS OF MISSION MEETING IN LONDON LAST DECEMBER, ARE BASED ON THESE POLICIES. THERE IS NO SECRET ADMINISTRATION POLICY THAT DIFFERS IN ANY WAY FROM OUR DECLARED PUBLIC POLICY, AS INDEED THERE CANNOT BE IN OUR COUNTRY. END TEXT. KISSINGER

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